

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 032/04081	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. PCT/IL2004/001169	International filing date (day/month/year) 26/12/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 15/01/2004
Applicant ALGOTEC SYSTEMS LTD.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☐ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☒ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 7

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IL2004/001169

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06T7/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>LI R ET AL: "Combining front propagation with shape knowledge for accurate curvilinear modeling" MEDICAL IMAGE COMPUTING AND COMPUTER-ASSISTED INTERVENTION - MICCAI 2003. 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. PROCEEDINGS. PART II (LECTURE NOTES IN COMPUT. SCI. VOL. 2879) SPRINGER - VERLAG BERLIN, GERMANY, 2003, pages 66-74, XP002325788 ISBN: 3-540-20464-4 the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- -/--</p>	<p>1-72, 86-94</p>

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

09. 11. 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>SETHIAN J A: "Level set methods and fast marching methods" [Online] 1999, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS , XP002325674 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:http://math.berkeley.edu/~sethian/Books/sethian_book.ps> [retrieved on 2005-04-20] the whole document</p>	1-72, 86-94
A	<p>----- DESCHAMPS T ET AL: "Fast extraction of minimal paths in 3D images and applications to virtual endoscopy" MEDICAL IMAGE ANALYSIS, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD, GB, vol. 5, 2001, pages 281-299, XP002904305 ISSN: 1361-8415 the whole document</p>	1-72, 86-94
A	<p>----- COHEN L D ET AL: "GLOBAL MINIMUM FOR ACTIVE CONTOUR MODELS: A MINIMAL PATH APPROACH" INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF COMPUTER VISION, KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS, NORWELL, US, vol. 24, no. 1, August 1997 (1997-08), pages 57-78, XP000703576 ISSN: 0920-5691 cited in the application the whole document</p>	1-72, 86-94
A	<p>----- WINK O ET AL: "3D MRA CORONARY AXIS DETERMINATION USING A MINIMUM COST PATH APPROACH" MAGNETIC RESONANCE IN MEDICINE, ACADEMIC PRESS, DULUTH, MN, US, vol. 47, no. 6, June 2002 (2002-06), pages 1169-1175, XP001170393 ISSN: 0740-3194 the whole document</p>	1-72, 86-94
A	<p>----- MADDAH MAHNAZ ET AL: "Efficient center-line extraction for quantification of vessels in confocal microscopy images" MEDICAL PHYSICS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS. NEW YORK, US, vol. 30, no. 2, February 2003 (2003-02), pages 204-211, XP012011984 ISSN: 0094-2405 the whole document</p> <p>-----</p>	1-72, 86-94

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IL2004/001169

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-72, 86-94

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-72,86-94

centerline finding for a tubular tissue in a medical image
data set

2. claims: 73-80

segmentation of an organ in a medical data set

3. claims: 81-85

propagation fo a parametrization in a medical data set
